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# Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08 ICA-11
COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 SS-15
OIC-02 /081 W
----------092493 121834Z /43
P 121630Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5831
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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PARIS FOR UNESCO

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: FAO,AORG,EFIN
SUBJ: FAO 1980-1981 BUDGET

REF: (A) ROME 16825; (B) ROME 16826; (C) STATE 221105;
(D) STATE 224818

1. ROME GENEVA GROUP'S DRAFTING GROUP MET SEPT. 12. AND REACHED PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT ON A LINE OF APPROACH ON FAO 1980-81 BUDGET TO DG BY GROUP WHICH BASED ON FOLLOWING AGREEMENT:
(A) THAT ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL SHOULD EMPHASIZE THE SERIOUS FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES OF MANY MEMBER COUNTRIES;
(B) THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL FOR FAO IN THESE CIRCUM-STANCES TO ENSURE THAT ITS PROGRAM UNDER THE REGULAR BUDGET WAS STRICTLY LIMITED; MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WOULD
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WISH TO BE SATISFIED OVER THE PROVISION PROPOSED FOR THE VARIOUS INDIVIDUAL ITEMS, PARTICULARLY THOSE FOR FAO COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES AND THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM;
(C) THAT MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WOULD THEREFORE WELCOME AN INDICATION OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S INTENTIONS WITH RE-GARD TO THE PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR 1980-81 AND OF

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WHEN AND HOW THEY WILL BE MADE KNOWN;
(D) THAT BECAUSE OF THE REAL GROWTH LIMITS GOVERNMENTS
ARE APPLYING TO THEIR OWN BUDGETARY PROCESSES, MOST
GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED WILL HAVE GREAT DIFFI-
CULTY ACCEPTING ANYTHING BUT A MINIMUM NET REAL GROWTH
BEYOND THE PRESENT LEVEL OF THE BUDGET, MOST TAKING
POSITIONS IN THE RANGE BETWEEN ZERO NET REAL GROWTH AND
THREE PERCENT GROWTH FOR THE BIENNIUM. ONE MEMBER INDEED
COULD NOT, GIVEN ITS DOMESTIC BUDGET, AGREE TO ANY IN-
CREASE IN THE LEVEL OF FAO'S BUDGET DURING THE NEXT
BIEMMIUM BEYOND A FIGURE OF AROUND $250 MILLION. ANOTHER,
WHILE INTENT ON BUDGETARY DISCIPLINE, WOULD PREFER NOT
TO BE ASSOCIATED EVEN WITH A PRELIMINARY PERCENTAGE
LIMIT ON GROWTH UNTIL THE DG'S PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN EXAMINED;
(E) THAT IN LINE WITH DG'S INTENTIONS EXPRESSED JULY 26 AND WITH
A VIEW TO PROCEEDING TOWARD A 1980-81 BUDGET
WHICH THE FAO MEMBERSHIP CAN SUPPORT UNANIMOUSLY.
THEY HAPPY TO PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM ASAP
PEFERABLY BEFORE THE NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING.

2. FRG AND FRANCE WERE HELPFUL IN SUPPORTING U.S.
REP VIEW THAT DG SHOULD BE GIVEN IDEA OF RANGE WHICH
MOST OF GROUP WAS IN. JAPANESE WERE UNHAPPY AT SEEING
RANGE GO AS HIGH AS 3 PERCENT PER BIENNIUM ON INITIAL
GO-AGROUND, WHILE UK NOT SURE UKG WOULD WANT TO SEE IT
THAT LOW (AS THEIR 2 PERCENT PER ANNUM POSITION USUALLY
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EXPRESSED AS 4 PERCENT FOR BIENNIUM). AUSTRALIANS CAME
ON BOARD ON CONDITION IDEA OF PROPOSING CONTACT GROUP
ON 1980-81 BUDGET INCLUDED AND THIS WAS INCLUDED AS
POINT. (E) DUTCH NOT PRESENT BUT, WITH A SPEICAL
SENTENCE INSERTED FOR THEM SHOULD GO ALONG. WE TRUST
CANADIANS WILL ALSO.

3. U.S. REP MADE AN EFFORT (REFTEL C) TO INCLUDE A POINT
ABOUT RELATIONSHIP OF REGULAR BUDGET DISCIPLINE TO EXTRA
BUDGETARY CONTRIBUTIONS BUT IT WAS CONCLUDED THAT, WITH
FRG PHASING DOWN ITS TRUST FUNDING OF FAO. FRENCH AND
JAPANESE NOT CONTEMPLATING ANY, AND CANADA WITHOUT
A POSITION ON CONTRIBUTION TO POST HARVEST LOSSES FUND,
IT WOULD BE BETTER TO STEER CLEAR OF THIS ARGUMENT IN ANY
GROUP APPROACH. ALL AGREED WITH DESIRABILITY OF GETTING
STATISTICS FROM GROUP MEMBERS ON EXTRA-BUDGETARY SUPPORT
OF FAO. FRG REP PROBED AS TO WHETHER U.S. INTEREST IN
THIS ARGUMENT REPRESENTED ANY CHANGE IN OUR PHILOSOPHY
ON UNDP CHANNEL, WHICH U.S. REP SAID IT DID NOT.

4. IF GROUP ENDORSES PARA ONE SEPT. 14, BELGIAN REP, WHO
WANTS TO OFFER LUNCH, WILL THEN SEEK TO FIX SEPT. 28 OR 29

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DATE FOR MEETING WITH DG INDICATING HE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE
IT AT LUNCH.

5 COMMENT: BELIEVE POSITION IN PARA ONE WITHIN OUR
INSTRUCTIONS. IT DOESNOT COMMIT US AT THIS TIME TO ACCEPT
NET REAL GROWTH AS HIGH AS THREE PERCENT PER BIENNIUM
AND KEEPS ENTIRE GROUP, EXCEPT FOR DUTCH, WITHIN THAT
RANGE. DG WILL UNDOUBTEDLY START HIS BARGAINING
WITH AN ASSUMPTION HE CAN GET ALL OF US TO ACCEPT AT LEAST
3 PERCENT FOR BIENNIUM WITH PRESENT BUDGET LEVEL AS BASE.
GROUP WILL TRY (1) TO HOLD HIM TO 3 PERCENT OR AT MOST 4
PERCENT BIENNIUM (CURRENT WHO MODEL), (2) TO GET HIM
TO SHOW US SOME OF HIS THINKING, AND (3) TO PROMOTE DIALOGUE
WITH HIM AND, IF HE WISHES, WITH G-77 IN A CONTACT GROUP
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WHICH WILL RESTRAIN HIM FROM GOING TO THE FAO COUNCIL
WITH A PROJECTION WITH WHCIH WE WILL HAVE TO TAKE PUBLIC
ISSUE. GARDNER

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NNN

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# Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** BUDGETS
**Control Number:** n/a
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**Draft Date:** 12 sep 1978
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960
**Decaption Note:**
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
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**Subject:** FAO 1980-1981 BUDGET
**TAGS:** AORG, EFIN, FAO
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
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